

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims according to the following listing of the claims:

1. (original) A portable defibrillator comprising a housing containing defibrillator circuitry and a disposable electrode assembly external to said housing, the electrode assembly comprising two defibrillator electrodes, at least one battery for powering the defibrillator circuitry, and a connector for connecting the electrode and battery to the defibrillator housing, wherein the connector has power output terminals for connecting the at least one battery to the defibrillator circuitry and at least one high voltage input terminal for receiving a defibrillation voltage to be applied to the electrodes, and wherein the electrodes have a stowage location on the defibrillator housing and the defibrillator has means for automatically connecting power to the defibrillator circuitry upon deployment of the electrodes.

2. (original) A defibrillator as claimed in claim 1, wherein the defibrillation electrodes are electrically connected by a frangible connection which is broken when the electrodes are deployed for use, and wherein the defibrillator circuitry determines when the frangible link is broken to complete a power supply circuit in the defibrillator housing.

3. (original) A defibrillator as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the electrodes are in their stowage location an insulating member interrupts a power supply circuit in the defibrillator housing, and wherein the insulating member cooperates with the electrodes such that removal of the electrodes from their stowage location causes removal of the insulating member from the power supply circuit and resultant completion of said circuit.

4. (currently amended) A defibrillator as claimed in claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, wherein the electrode assembly comprises a common housing for the defibrillation electrodes and the at least one battery, the common electrode/battery housing being removably fitted to the defibrillator housing and having power output and high voltage input terminals for connection to corresponding terminals on the defibrillator housing.

5. (original) A defibrillator as claimed in claim 4, wherein the common housing is slidable into a complementary recess in the defibrillator housing, the sliding movement bringing the terminals on the two housings into engagement.

6. (original) A defibrillator claimed in claim 5, wherein the common housing comprises a shallow upper tray-like recess for accommodating the defibrillator electrodes and a deeper battery-containing recess occupying part of the area of the tray-like recess whereby the common housing has a stepped lower surface, wherein the defibrillator housing has a stepped recess complementary to that of the lower surface of the common housing, wherein the common housing is slid into the recess in the defibrillator housing from an edge thereof in a direction substantially parallel to the plane of the tray-like recess, and wherein the engaging terminals are located on riser portions of the lower surface of the common housing and the complementary recess in the defibrillator housing.

7. (new) A portable defibrillator comprising a housing containing defibrillator circuitry and a disposable electrode assembly external to said housing, the electrode assembly comprising two defibrillator electrodes, at least one battery for powering the defibrillator circuitry, and a connector for connecting the electrode and battery to the defibrillator housing, wherein the connector has power output terminals for connecting the at least one battery to the defibrillator circuitry and at least one high voltage input terminal for receiving a defibrillation voltage to be applied to the electrodes, and wherein the electrodes have a stowage location on the defibrillator housing and the defibrillator has means for automatically connecting power to the defibrillator circuitry upon deployment of the electrodes; wherein the defibrillation electrodes are electrically connected by a frangible connection which is broken when the electrodes are deployed for use, and wherein the defibrillator circuitry determines when the frangible link is broken to complete a power supply circuit in the defibrillator housing and wherein the electrode assembly comprises a common housing for the defibrillation electrodes and the at least one battery, the common electrode/battery housing being removably fitted to the defibrillator housing and having power output and high voltage input terminals for connection to corresponding terminals on the defibrillator housing.

8. (new) A defibrillator as claimed in claim 7, wherein the common housing is slidable into a complementary recess in the defibrillator housing, the sliding movement bringing the terminals on the two housings into engagement.

9. (new) A defibrillator claimed in claim 8, wherein the common housing comprises a shallow upper tray-like recess for accommodating the defibrillator electrodes and a deeper battery-containing recess occupying part of the area of the tray-like recess whereby the common housing has a stepped lower surface, wherein the defibrillator housing has a stepped recess complementary to that of the lower surface of the common housing, wherein the common housing is slid into the recess in the defibrillator housing from an edge thereof in a direction substantially parallel to the plane of the tray-like recess, and wherein the engaging terminals are located on riser portions of the lower surface of the common housing and the complementary recess in the defibrillator housing.